

RETROFIT YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD:
FROM STEEL TO
GREEN, POLLUTION
TO SOLUTION

A Community- Wide Exhibit Supporting The South Chicago Retrofit Project

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

“Retrofit Your Neighborhood” showcases stories from Southeast Side residents about the different ways they are already “going green” and helping their families and communities become healthier and more environmentally friendly. The stories were collected by youth from The Zone, a youth and community center serving the Southeast Side of Chicago through a variety of programs, including youth leadership around the environment. These same youth also created the exhibit, along with youth from another local organization, the South Chicago Art Center. The Art Center provides free visual arts programming to South Side youth and engages them in civic and environmental issues in part by operating the Artists’ Garden, a community garden on four city lots just north of the Center.



exhibit website, *Southeast Green Gallery*, designed and developed by Zone youth in collaboration with Zone leader Sal Alvarez and his local graphic design company, Quam Interactive: www.southeastgreengallery.org. The website features stories collected by the youth; tips on saving energy; and a video also made by the youth on the Southeast Side’s industrial and environmental history, which culminates in a dynamic introduction to the South Chicago Retrofit Project.

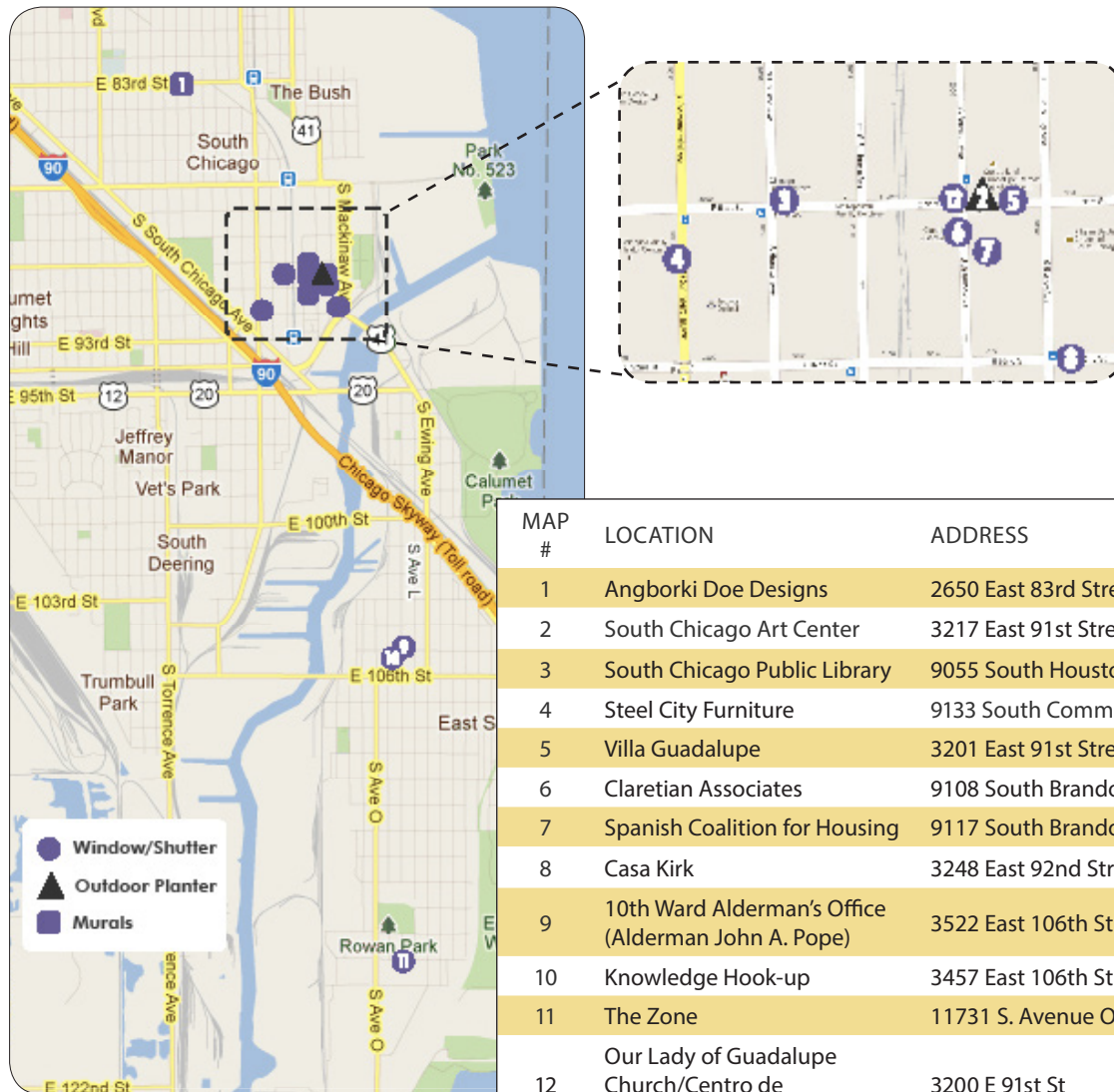


The Zone and the South Chicago Art Center created three different types of displays: 1) Two huge indoor murals depicting local scenes and stories collected by Zone youth, created by these youth with Zone leader and artist Ayla Zaki (#1 on the map); 2) Two big outdoor planters made from recycled sewer pipes, created by South Chicago Art Center youth with lead artist Phil Schuster, depicting visual representations of the stories (#2 on the map); and 3) An

The exhibit also includes ten displays (#3-12 on the map) made by South Chicago community members with staff from The Field Museum out of old home windows and shutters, purchased from the ReBuilding Exchange on Chicago’s North Side (www.rebuildingexchange.org). This is no accident; recycling home interiors was just another way that we’ve tried to be creative and environmentally friendly. The displays use residents’ stories and photos of the Southeast Side to showcase green lifestyles in the community, past and present.

From design to execution, “Retrofit Your Neighborhood: From Steel to Green, Pollution to Solution” brought partners together to help move the Southeast Side of Chicago towards an environmentally-friendly vision for the future.

Visit the exhibit website:
www.southeastgreengallery.org



"Retrofit Your Neighborhood" is part of the South Chicago Retrofit Project, which aims to significantly increase the number of residents who have their homes retrofit to save energy and money. A retrofit involves making changes to the structure of a home so that it uses less energy and is more comfortable. To learn more and to see if you qualify for a retrofit, call Claretian Associates at (773) 734-9181 or Spanish Coalition for Housing at (773) 933-7575.



Find this and other climate action tools at climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org

This exhibit is also part of The Field Museum's Chicago Community Climate Action Toolkit, which helps community organizations engage residents in local work to address climate change and improve the community. Learn more about the South Chicago Toolkit project: climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org/south-chicago